

# FLOATING PAD WALKS

The department's plan review function for water attractions (water parks, water slides, activity pools, etc) is to review plans on the basis of "sound engineering practice." See s. Comm 90.20 (1). Many water attractions are designed and constructed to be exciting and fun, but they seldom fit into a neat box for plan review specifications. The following policy is intended to cover general safety requirements for a floating pad walk (e.g. lilly pads, logs, etc.).

1. The water depth of the pool shall be at least 4 feet with appropriate depth markings on pool deck and vertical walls of the pool as required in s. Comm 90.08 (14).
2. All pool side walls and any obstructions such as guardrails, pillars or chains must be padded or encased so as to protect pool patrons from abrasion, laceration or contusion. The padding material shall be placed on objects within 4 feet of the walk pads.
3. Guide rails or netting strung across floating pad walks for patron support shall be placed at a comfortable height for the intended users above the walking pads.
4. Floating devices, not intended to be mobile, shall be anchored in a manner to restrict movement to the range established by the designer. Chains or cables shall be vertical and taught.
5. Pads and anchoring systems shall be configured to minimize circumstances of possible entrapment of users, bodies, hair, limbs or appendages should they come in contact with any element of the pad or its anchors. Chains must be sleeved.
6. A maximum width of 7 feet is permitted for floating pad walks. There must be 8 feet separating two floating pad walks in the same pool.